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THE MYSORE SEASON AND CROP REPORT.

1906-07:

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GENERAL NOTE.

The following is a brief summary of the more important variations in the figures:—

PART I. Agricultural Statistics.

1. There is an increase of 2,230 acres in the total area (column 2—Table A-I area according to professional survey), due chiefly to the revision settlement operations in the Challakere and Chiknayakanhalli Taluks and to minor corrections made in the Akarbund by the Survey Department.

2. The total area of the State is nearly 19 million acres of which no returns have been rendered for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions comprising alienated villages and Jahgirs. Out of the balance of about $17\frac{1}{2}$ million acres 1,933,611 acres, are under Forest Proper i.e., State Forest and plantations not including District Forests against 1,804,021 acres in 1905-06. This increase is due to reservation of fresh areas under State Forests. It should be explained that though in the explanatory Memorandum issued with Government Order No. 3473-8.—R. 1100, dated 6th October 1897, under para 5, "Forest" means any land classed or administered as Forest and includes also District Forests, yet as the latter are not separately mapped, Amrit Mahal, Gomai and Kharab lands which under the Forest Regulation and Rules are treated as District Forests, are shown in the next column. The rights and privileges of raiyats in the latter relate mostly to grazing and dry fuel, while almost all other produce is collected by the Forest Department. Thus the area which should come under Forests in column 2, if properly classified, would be far in excess of the above total. The total extent of free grazing and hulbanni lands being about 4,931,000 acres and State Amrit Mahal Kavals about 402,000 acres as per area return furnished by Districts, the aggregate total of lands really administered by the Forest Department would be about $7\frac{1}{4}$ million acres.

The area actually available for cultivation is about $8\frac{1}{2}$ million acres or about half the total area for which returns are furnished. The total occupied area amounts to about $7\frac{1}{4}$ million acres; of which 6 millions were cultivated during the year, an extent of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ million acres forming assessed waste.

PART IV. Rainfall.

3. The rainfall during the year was exceptionally good in all the districts, the average for the State being as high as 44.42 inches as against 27.37 inches for the previous year and 36.91 inches, the average for 37 years, from 1870 to 1906.

PART I.

4. As a result of this copious rainfall, the total net area cropped (Table A-2,) during the year 1906-07 was 6,030,486 acres, exhibiting an increase of about 250,000 acres over that of the previous year. This increase was spread over all the districts except Hassan, the bulk of it occurring in the Districts of Chitaldrug, Shimoga, Tumkur and Kolar.

5. There was an increase of 45,121 acres in the area irrigated (Table A-2 column 13), chiefly under tanks. Nearly half of this increase occurred in the Shimoga District.

6. Areas under different crops.

Dealing only with the principal crops, there was a perceptible increase in the area under the following heads as shown against each of them:—

Ragi	...	...	...	73,262	Acres.
Rice	...	...	...	53,894	"
Gram	...	...	...	31,989	"
Kambu	...	...	...	20,902	"
Other food grains including pulses	...	...	...	98,684	"
Miscellaneous food crops	...	...	...	20,798	"

The only items under which there was a note-worthy decrease were 'oil-seeds, 'condiments and spices' and 'cholam', the fall in the area under these having been 17,489, 12,421 and 10,636 acres respectively.

TABLE C.

7. The incidence of Land Revenue (excluding cesses) per head of the population for the whole State, including wholly or partially revenue-free areas was Rs. 1-12-9 during the year as against Rs. 1-12-4 in the previous year, while the incidence in the fully assessed area works out at Rs. 1-13-10 per head as against Rs. 1-13-6 in the previous year.

TABLE D.

8. The number of raiyatvari holdings increased from 1,020,668 in 1905-06 to 1,047,958 in the year under review, and their gross area was 6,845,525 acres as against 6,802,721 acres in the previous year. The average area per holding was 6.53 acres with an average assessment of 8.70 rupees as against 6.66 acres and 8.73 rupees respectively in the previous year.

There was during the year an increase of 3,137 in the number of estates under "wholly or partially revenue-free tenure" with an increase of 5,591 acres in extent. Almost the whole increase is observed in the Tumkur District, and this requires explanation.

TABLE E.

9. There were during the year 1,363 transfers of lands involving 9,793 acres, by order of courts as against 1,494 involving 3,444 acres in the previous year. Transfers by private contract or gift, numbered 14,163 comprising 75,399 acres as against 17,014 with 88,335 acres in 1905-06.

TABLE G.

10. While all other returns are for the official year the return relating to coffee alone is for the calendar year. As, however, the statements for the year 1907 were not received in time for incorporation in this compilation, the figures for 1906 have been republished.

TABLE H.

11. The area under cinchona is purely nominal the extent cultivated during the year being the same as in the last year, viz., 112 acres.

PART II. Estimated out-turn of certain selected crops.

12. There was an increase of 746,000 khandies in the out-turn of paddy during the year which was due partly to increase in the area under paddy and partly to better harvest. For the State as a whole, the average out-turn was a ten-anna crop or 62 per cent of the standard out-turn.

The area under paddy was greater than in the previous year in all the districts except Mysore and Hassan where there was a decrease of about 5,600 and 4,100 acres respectively. The out-turn was greater in all the districts except Mysore where the crop being poor, there was a decrease of about 50,000 khandies. It is noteworthy that, in the Hassan District, in spite of a decrease of about 4,100 acres in the area under crop, there was an increase in out-turn of about 45,000 khandies.

13. The ragi crop fared much better during the year, the out-turn being 9.1 annas as against 6.1 in the previous year. Both the area under crop and the out-turn were greater in all the districts, the total increase being 73,265 acres and 1,520,990 khandies respectively.

14. The area under horse-gram and the out-turn during the year, increased by about 16,500 acres and 72,400 khandies respectively. In the Districts of Mysore and Kadur, there was a decrease in out-turn notwithstanding an increase in area, while in the Districts of Bangalore and Kolar there was decrease in area but increase in out-turn.

15. The area under cholam during the year was greater than in the previous year by about 7,500 acres, and there was an increase of 49,000 khandies in the out-turn.

16. The total area under sugar-cane was 40,373 acres exhibiting an increase of 1,000 acres over that of the previous year, with an excess of about 429,500 maunds in the out-turn.

PART III. Prices of some Principal Articles of Food.

17. The prices of important food-grains, (viz., rice, ragi, cholam and Bengal-gram) which during the first half of the year under review were generally higher than in the corresponding period of the previous year fell during the second half.

Bangalore, }
16 July 1908. }

A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR,

Revenue Commissioner.